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Title : Observation regarding notices of adjournment of the Business of the House.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, notices of adjournment of the business of the House have been given by Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, Sarvashri Gopinath Munde, Ananth Kumar, Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan, Dr. Rajan Sushant, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, Kunwar Rewati Raman Singh, Shri Basudeb Acharia, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Shri Sharad Yadav, Shri Dara Singh Chauhan, Shrimati Harsimrat Kaur Badal and Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala.

Hon. Members, I have carefully examined them in terms of the Rules of the House as well as precedents in the last two days and have also heard the hon. Members in the House. All these notices deal with the price rise which is a very serious issue. The whole country is concerned about it and is looking up to Parliament to find a solution. I must also add that the Chair is equally concerned about the burning issue of price situation.

I think it is the duty of this House to discuss this issue in all its seriousness.

Now, the question is whether the notices of adjournment are admissible under the Rules. Rule 56 says that a definite matter of urgent public importance may be discussed by adjourning the business of the House. The term `urgent' in the Rule has been interpreted by my illustrious predecessors in a string of rulings.

श्री शरद यादव : इसका कोई मतलब नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : कृपया बैठ जाइए। As per these rulings, the term "urgent matter of public importance" must have arisen suddenly in the manner of an emergency. Further, it has also been held that the Chair has to take into consideration the technical meaning of the word 'urgent' used in the Rule relating to adjournment motion.

Rule 58(iii) says that the motion shall be restricted to a specific matter of recent occurrence.

The subject matter of the notices of adjournment motion before me namely the price rise has not arisen suddenly in the manner of an emergency. This House had discussed it in the last Session. So it cannot be held that the issue is one of recent occurrences or urgent in the sense in which it is used in the Rule.

11.43 hrs.

At this stage Shri Shailendra Kumar and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

MADAM SPEAKER: The notices can also be tested in terms of another Rule namely Rule 58(vi) the Rule of anticipation. This House is going to discuss shortly the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address and the General Budget. The President's address contains references to the price situation in the country and it is certainly going to be discussed during these debates. In this context, I would quote a ruling given by Shri G.V. Mavalankar, one of the illustrious Speakers of this House. I quote:

> "....The right to move adjournment motions has certain limitations. One of the limitations is that it should not anticipate a debate in the House. The point is that, if Hon'ble Members have a fairly good chance of raising the question on a debate, then it will not be permitted as an adjournment motion"

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: I am bound by the Rules of this House. I cannot also ignore the rulings of my predecessors. The Rules of the House and the past rulings on the subject do not allow me to admit these notices.

However, as I said in the beginning, the subject matter of these notices is extremely important. It is the duty of this House to discuss it. I have allowed a discussion on it under Rule 193 after the Railway Budget. Just after the Railway Budget there will be a discussion on price rise under Rule 193. The hon. Members have given notices under Rule 193 also. Here, I must state that the rule of anticipation which I applied in the case of adjournment motion applies in respect of discussion under Rule 193 also. However, the Rule of anticipation in respect of adjournment motion is mandatory in nature, whereas it is flexible and amenable to liberal interpretation in the case of a notice under Rule 193.

Hon'ble Members want a detailed and focused discussion on price inflation. Though the debates on Motion of Thanks and the General Budget are about to take place in which this issue can be discussed, considering the seriousness of the price situation and the hardship it causes to the common man, I will allow a discussion on it today itself. The discussion shall be under Rule 193. It can start after the Railway Budget.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12 noon.

11.44 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock

12.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.

(Madam Speaker *in the Chair*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Papers to be laid on the Table. Shri Prithviraj Chavan.